

REMARKS

Prior to this Reply, Claims 1-46 were pending. Through this Reply, Claims 26-46 have been cancelled without prejudice to, or disclaimer of, the subject matter contained therein. Accordingly, Claims 1-25 are now at issue in the present case.

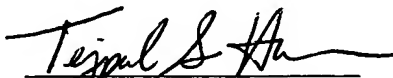
In the Office Action, the Examiner determined that the claims are directed to four patentably distinct groups of inventions, namely: Claims 1-25 (Group I) drawn to demagnetizing magnetic media through different strength magnetic fields; Claims 26-41 (Group II) drawn to magnetizing magnetic media through selected frequencies; Claims 42 and 43 (Group III) drawn to manufacturing a disk drive through sputtering; and, Claims 44-46 drawn to demagnetizing magnetic media through alternating the write current polarity. Accordingly, the Examiner required Applicants to elect a single group for prosecution on the merits.

In response, Applicants elect the claims of Group I (Claims 1-25) for prosecution on the merits. Accordingly, Applicants have cancelled Claims 26-46 without prejudice to, or disclaimer of, the subject matter contained therein.

Applicants believe that no fees are due. Nevertheless, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-2198 for any fees associated with filing this paper.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number regarding any matters relating to the present application.

Respectfully submitted,



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